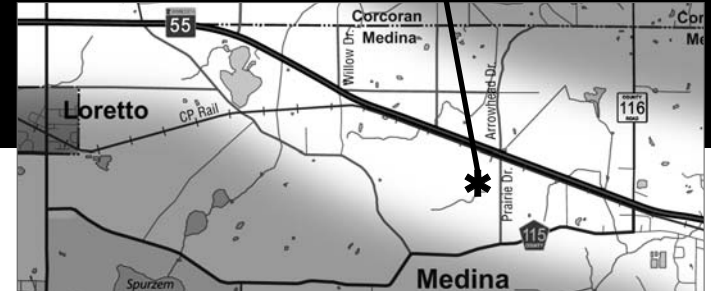


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Public Information Open House for the Highway 55 Project from Rockford to Plymouth

January 30, 2007 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the
Hennepin County Public Works Facility
(1600 Prairie Drive, Medina, Minnesota)



Public Information Open House

The January 30, 2007 Public Information Open House will be an opportunity for the public to learn about and comment on plans for future expansion of Highway 55 from Plymouth to Rockford (County Road 61 just east of I-494 to the western Hennepin County limit at the Crow River). **This project is not in Mn/DOT's 20-year plan, but it is important to plan to preserve right of way for future expansion now.** Anyone who is interested in learning more about how the proposed project may affect them is encouraged to attend. Additional opportunity to comment will occur at and following a formal public hearing that will take place when the environmental review document is published later this year.

What to expect at the open house

- Existing and future traffic data will be presented.
- Explanation of the need for the project will be provided.
- The current design concept will be displayed showing roadway and intersection design, where lanes will be added, and where changes in access will occur.
- Information will be provided regarding the environmental process.
- Anticipated schedule for the remainder of the project will be provided.
- There will be an informal opportunity to ask questions of and offer comments to project staff. There will be no formal presentation.

Hennepin County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) are partnering to prepare an Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) for corridor preservation for the future expansion of Highway 55 from Plymouth to Rockford. The project is needed to

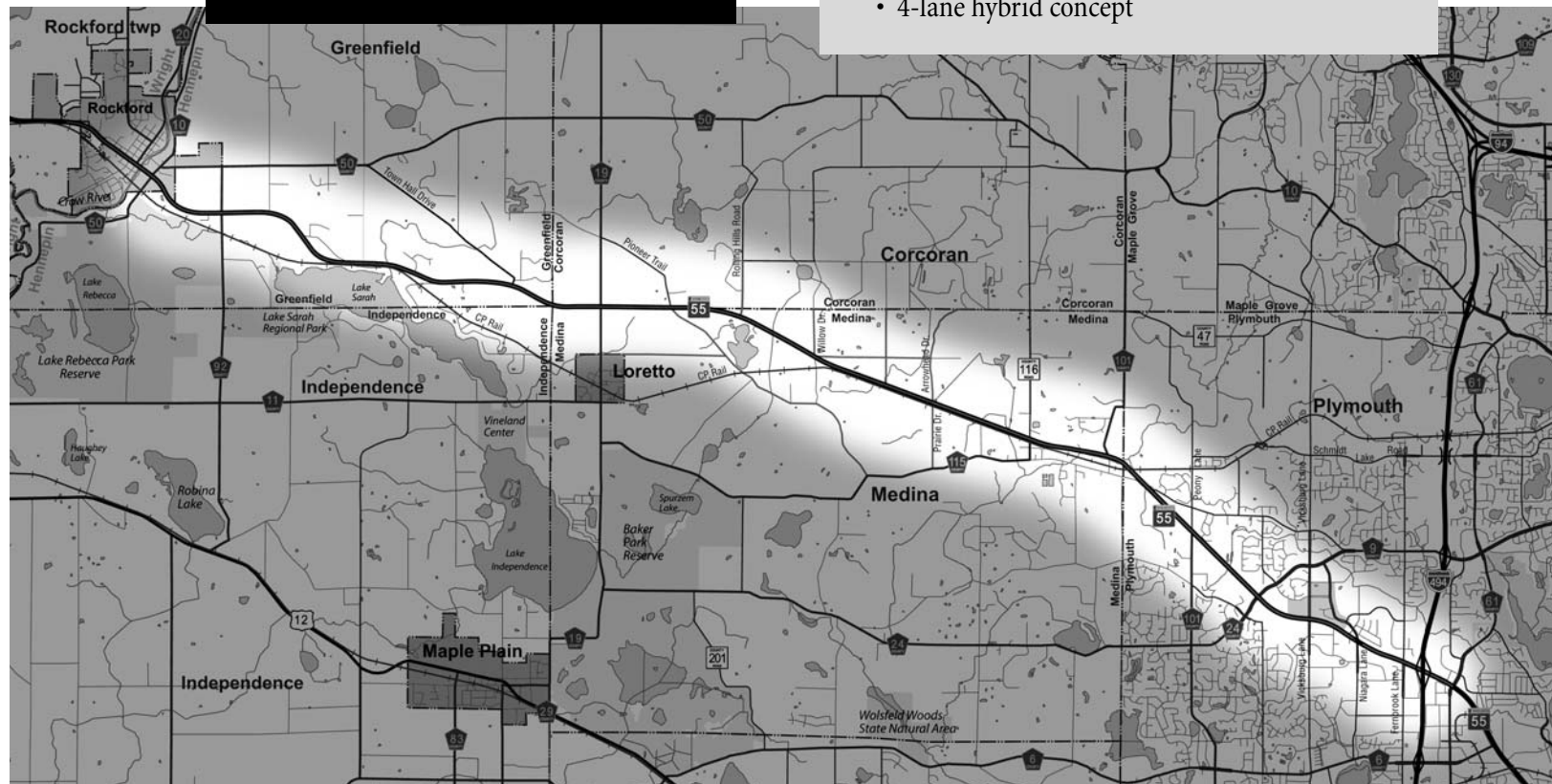
- 1) relieve congestion on Highway 55
- 2) provide safer access to Highway 55 from the local roadway networks
- 3) improve travel to and from the growing western communities
- 4) provide information for good community planning as the region develops

The current work will result in a design concept that will be used to preserve right of way through the “official mapping” process and other community planning tools. The EA/EAW will assess the potential impacts of the project and help obtain federal funding for right of way preservation.

See Mn/DOT project Web site for more details:
<http://projects.dot.state.mn.us/srf/055/>.

Individuals with a disability, who need reasonable accommodations to participate, please contact Kent Barnard, Mn/DOT Public Affairs, at 651-582-1364. Hearing or speech impaired persons contact the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.

Highway 55 Project Corridor Map



Schedule

Public Information Open House	January 30, 2007
EA/EAW publication	Fall 2007
Public Hearing on EA/EAW	Fall 2007

Right of way preservation activities including the official mapping process will begin following the conclusion of the environmental process. Actual right of way acquisition will follow when funding is available. The construction of the project is not currently programmed by Mn/DOT and will not occur until funding can be obtained.

Quick Look at Project Details:

- Expanded from 2 lanes to 4 lanes from Rockford to County Road 116 (Pinto Drive)
- Two alternatives between County Road 116 and the I-494 area are under study:
 - 6-lane concept
 - 4-lane hybrid concept